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ABSTRACT

Following substantial changes throughout the Australian education system, primary schools are no longer in the protected position of having a regulated flow of clients, a predetermined curriculum, and marginal levels of staff development. This book reviews the impact of this change on Australian primary schools, the people who are involved with them, and the issues they face. The book is divided into four major sections. The first section focuses on an introduction to the change and contains one chapter entitled, "'Enterprise': The New Metaphor for Schooling in a Post-Industrial Society" (Hedley Beare). The second section focuses on the people in the primary school and contains the following three chapters: (1) "Synchronicity and the Heroic Quest: The Primary Principal in an Era of Dramatic Change" (Brian J. Caldwell); (2) "Teachers, Training and Development" (Len Cairns); and (3) "Different Families: New Issues for Schools" (Tony Townsend and Ian Walker). The third section focuses on the restructures primary school and contains the following seven chapters: (1) "The Early Years of Schooling" (Anne Kennedy); (2) "Building a School Culture" (John Williamson and Maurice Galton); (3) "Curriculum Development in the Restructured School" (Colin Marsh); (4) "Assessment in Primary Schools" (John Ainley); (5) "The Impact of Computer Technology on Primary Education" (Geoff Romeo); (6) "Effective Resource Allocation in the Primary School" (Tony Townsend); and (7) "The Education Market: The View from the School" (Lindsay Fitzclarence and Jane Kenway, with Janine Collier). The final section focuses on the future and contains one chapter entitled, "The Primary School of the Future: Third World or Third Millennium?" (Tony Townsend). (Each chapter contains references.) (SD)

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